

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 NSC-05 H-02 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DEAE-00 /028 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:JFRAFFERTY:BB:SCT

APPROVED BY S/NM:SBVANCE

EA/TB:GROBERTS

EA/RA:WGALLAGHER

PM/SAS:DJAMES

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

DOD,NSC

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R 091814Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BM, TH

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS PROGRAM FY 76

CINCPAC PASS POLAD

1. IN BUDGET HEARINGS MAY 6 BEFORE FOREIGN OPERATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE OF SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY SENATOR INOUYE, AMBASSADOR VANCE TESTIFIED IN CONNECTION WITH STATE REQUEST FOR FY 1976 INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS FUNDS. INOUYE'S PRIMARY CONCERN WITH RESPECT TO BURMA WAS THE ABILITY OF GUB TO EFFECTIVELY OPERATE IN SHAN STATES TO INTERDICT NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING CARAVANS. INOUYE CITED 1972 TESTIMONY STATING BURMESE UNABLE TO CONTROL SHAN AREAS. AMBASSADOR VANCE ASSURED HIM THAT BURMESE ARMED FORCES WERE ABLE, WITH SOME LIMITATIONS, TO OPERATE IN SHAN STATES AND

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THE PROVISION OF HELICOPTERS TO GUB WOULD GREATLY FACILITATE

BURMESE OPERATIONS AGAINST THESE CARAVANS.

2. SENATOR INOUYE MADE STRONG POINT OF ASKING AMBASSADOR VANCE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF USING HELICOPTERS AND OTHER AIRCRAFT THAT ARE NOW REPORTEDLY AVAILABLE AS A RESULT OF EVACUATION OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN FORCES FOR OUR

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS. AMBASSADOR VANCE ASSURED SENATOR INOUTE THAT THIS MATTER WOULD BE EXPLORED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT BUDGET, NARCOTICS, DRUG CONTROL, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE108563
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFRAFFERTY:BB:SCT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750163-1008
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750565/aaaachdt.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SNM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS PROGRAM FY 76 CINCPAC PASS POLAD
TAGS: SNAR, BM, TH, US
To: RANGOON BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006